

Remarks

by

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National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics

Upon Receipt of the 1950 Daniel Guggenheim Award

January 29, 1951

I am deeply moved by the expression of confidence and trust from the Daniel Guggenheim Medal Board in admitting me to the roll of the many eminent past recipients of the Daniel Guggenheim Medal. In the present state of aeronautical advancement it would be a vain man indeed who interpreted this award as a recognition of his own work alone. The research and development tasks of today are the joint responsibility and opportunity of many men associated in a group effort. Therefore I interpret this award as a recognition of the research group as a whole, as an appreciation of the constant need to chart new trails, to explore new pathways and to clear the right of way; to remove the mountains and fill in the valleys so that the highway of aeronautical progress may be built by industry in response to the needs of the aeronautical community, both civil and military.

I have noticed that a fitting type of group recognition has been adopted by many of our educational institutions at their commencement exercises. Instead of having each graduate rise, pass to the stage, and receive his individual diploma, the whole group of candidates for the baccalaureate degree is invited

to stand, and the president announces that a degree is awarded to each candidate in the field for which he has qualified. However, one individual is designated as representative of the group to present himself in person to receive his diploma as a token and symbol for all. Here tonight I consider myself similarly as a representative of research men, of my former associates of the National Bureau of Standards and of my present associates of NACA, of the research men in the Department of Defense and in industry, of the research men of both the free and captive laboratories of universities too numerous to mention, and of all of you who devote your energies to research. To honor your work I accept this medal and certificate with much satisfaction.

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